Joint Commission between India and Pakistan

958. SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Pakistan have decided to revive the Joint Commission, which has met only thrice since its inception in 1983;

(b) if so, whether **a** meeting of the Joint Commission has since been held;

(c) if so, by when and where; and

(d) the decision taken therein and the action since taken in pursuance thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHMMED): (a) to (d) The India-Pakistan Joint Commission was revived in October 2005 after a gap of almost 16 years during former EAM's visit to Islamabad from 2 to 5 October 2005. A plenary meeting of the revived India-Pakistan Joint Commission took place on 4 October 2005. It was decided that the next meeting of the Joint Comission will be preceded by technical level working groups on Agriculture, Health, Science & Technology, Information, Education, Information Technology & Telecommunication, Environment and Tourism.

Modalities for implementation of Indo-US Nuclear Agreement

†959. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all the modalities have been chalked out for implementation of Indo-U.S. Nuclear Agreement; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI RAO INDERJIT SINGH) (a) and (b) Discussions are on between India and USA for working out the modalities to realize the Indo-U.S. understanding on civil nuclear cooperation - as spelt out in the Indo-U.S. Joint Statement of 18 July 2005. To this end a working Group, headed by Foreign Secretary on the Indian side and Under Secretary for Political Affairs of the State Department on the US side, has been set up - which held its first meeting in New Delhi on October 21,2005.

†Original notice of question was received in Hindi